

# FWP Watercraft Inspection Program

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*Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks*

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Ommundsen

**“It doesn’t seem to be covered in our  
invasive species management plan.”**

PETER OMMUNDSEN

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## Zebra and Quagga Mussel Sightings Distribution

*Dreissena polymorpha* and *D. rostriformis bugensis*



- Zebra mussel occurrences
- Quagga mussel occurrences
- Both species occurrences
- Zebra mussels eradicated

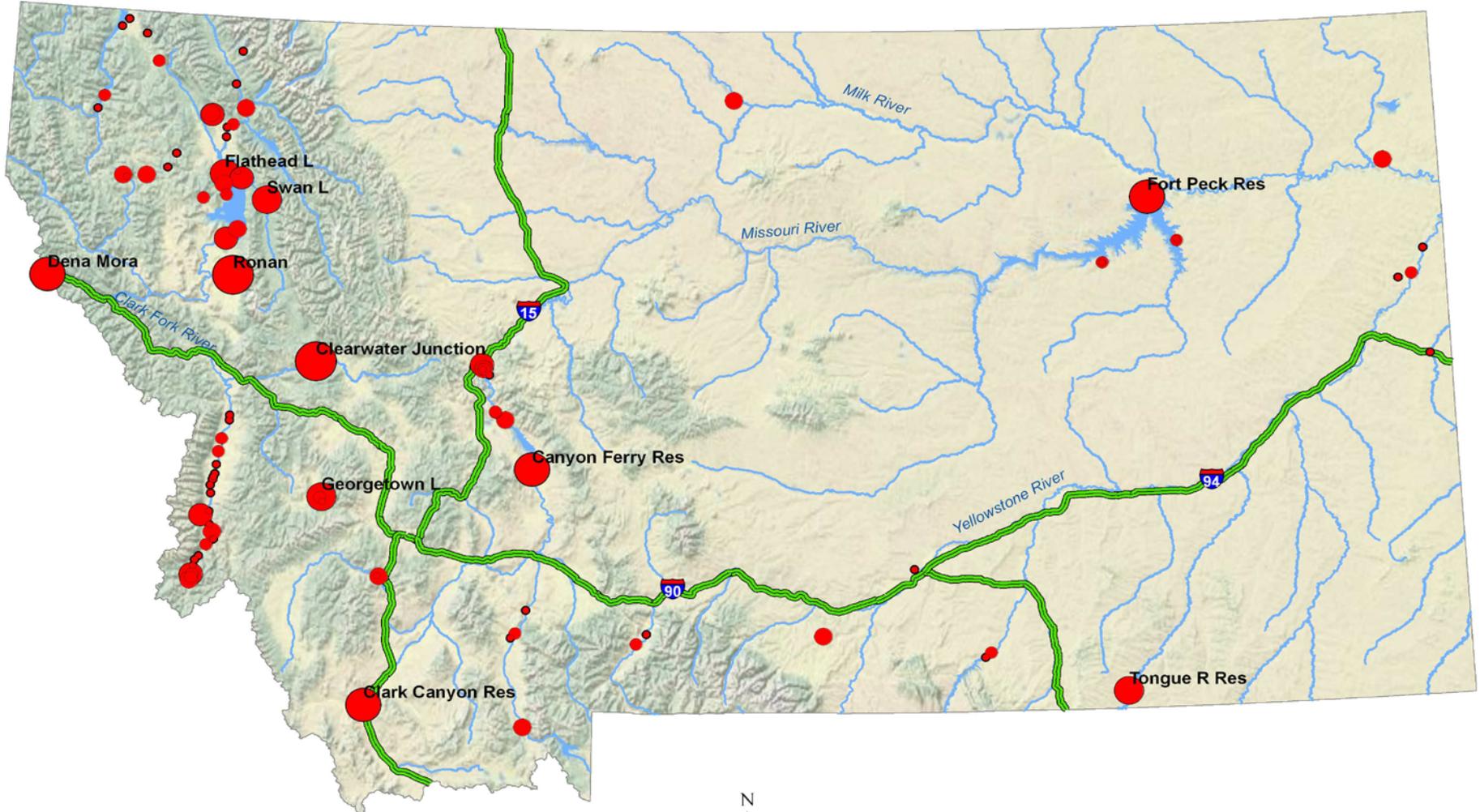
# FWP Authority

## 12.11.341 ARM Aquatic Invasive Species Inspection Stations

- (1) Vessels approaching a department-operated inspection station must stop as directed.
- (2) Vessels intended for launching on any water in Montana are subject to inspection for aquatic invasive species.
- (3) Areas subject to the search include but are not limited to:
  - (a) the exterior of the vessel;
  - (b) livewells;
  - (c) bait buckets;
  - (d) bilge areas; and
  - (e) trailer transporting vessel.
- (4) Any vessel at an inspection station found with an invasive species will be decontaminated as arranged by the department and must pass a second inspection prior to launching in Montana waters.

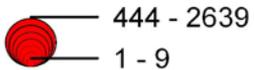
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# 2011 Watercraft Inspection Stations



Inspection Station

No. of Interviews



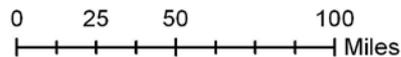
Lake



Stream



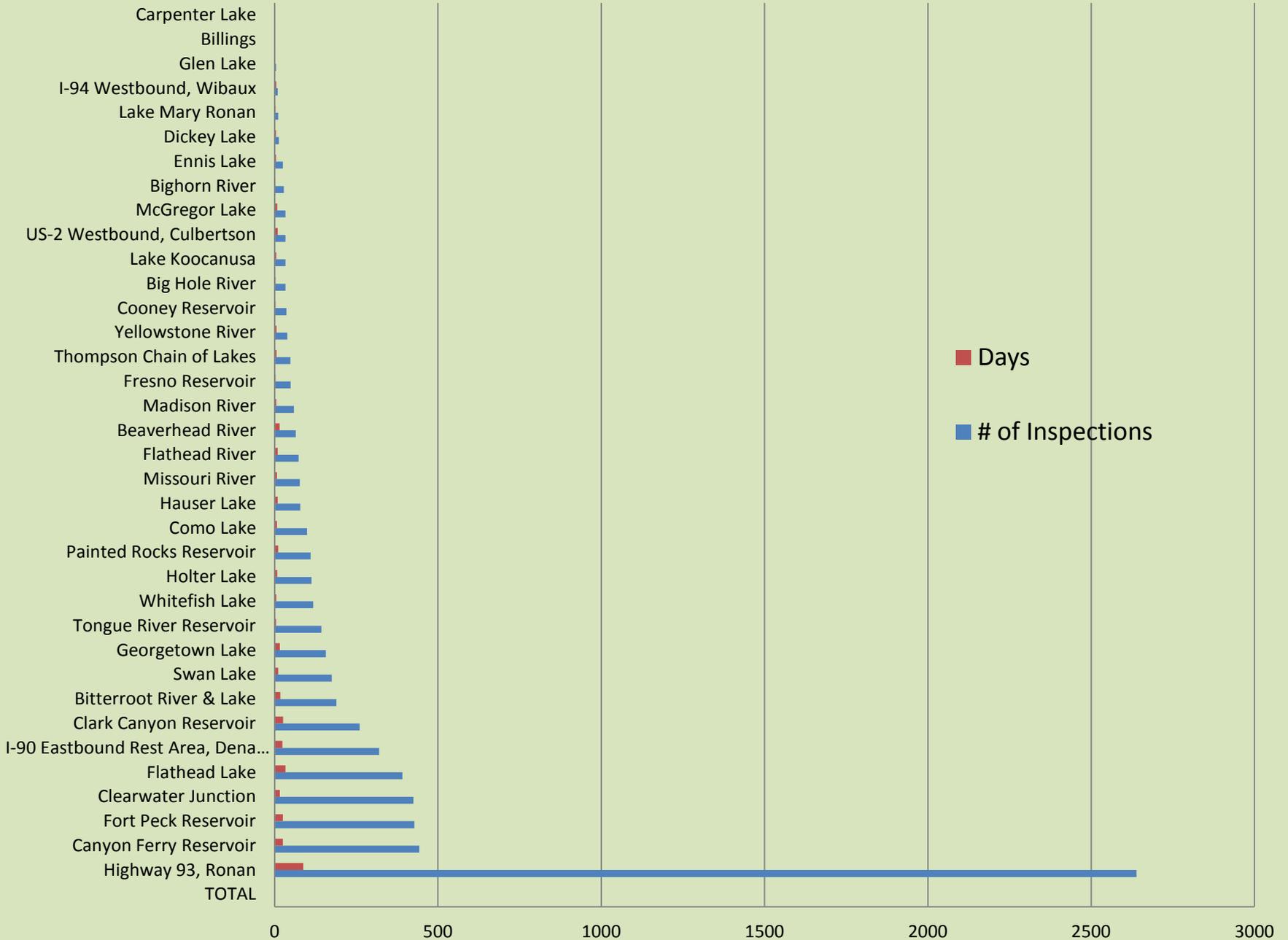
Interstate



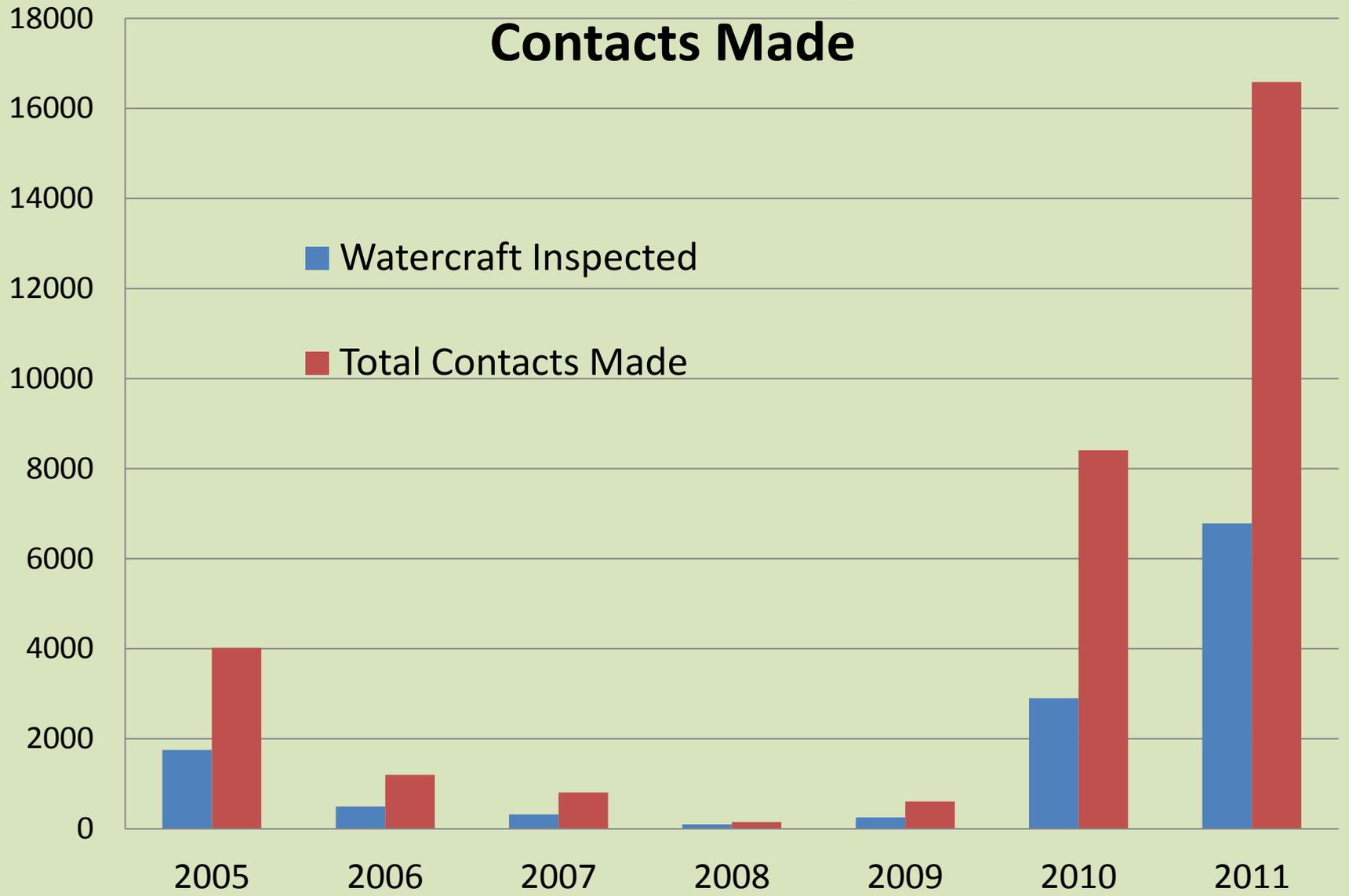
**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

Map Produced by: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
WIS\_Requests\11722\_AISMaps 1/9/2012

# Number of Inspections and Days Spent At Each Site



# 2005-2011 Watercraft Inspected and Contacts Made



# Watercraft Inspection

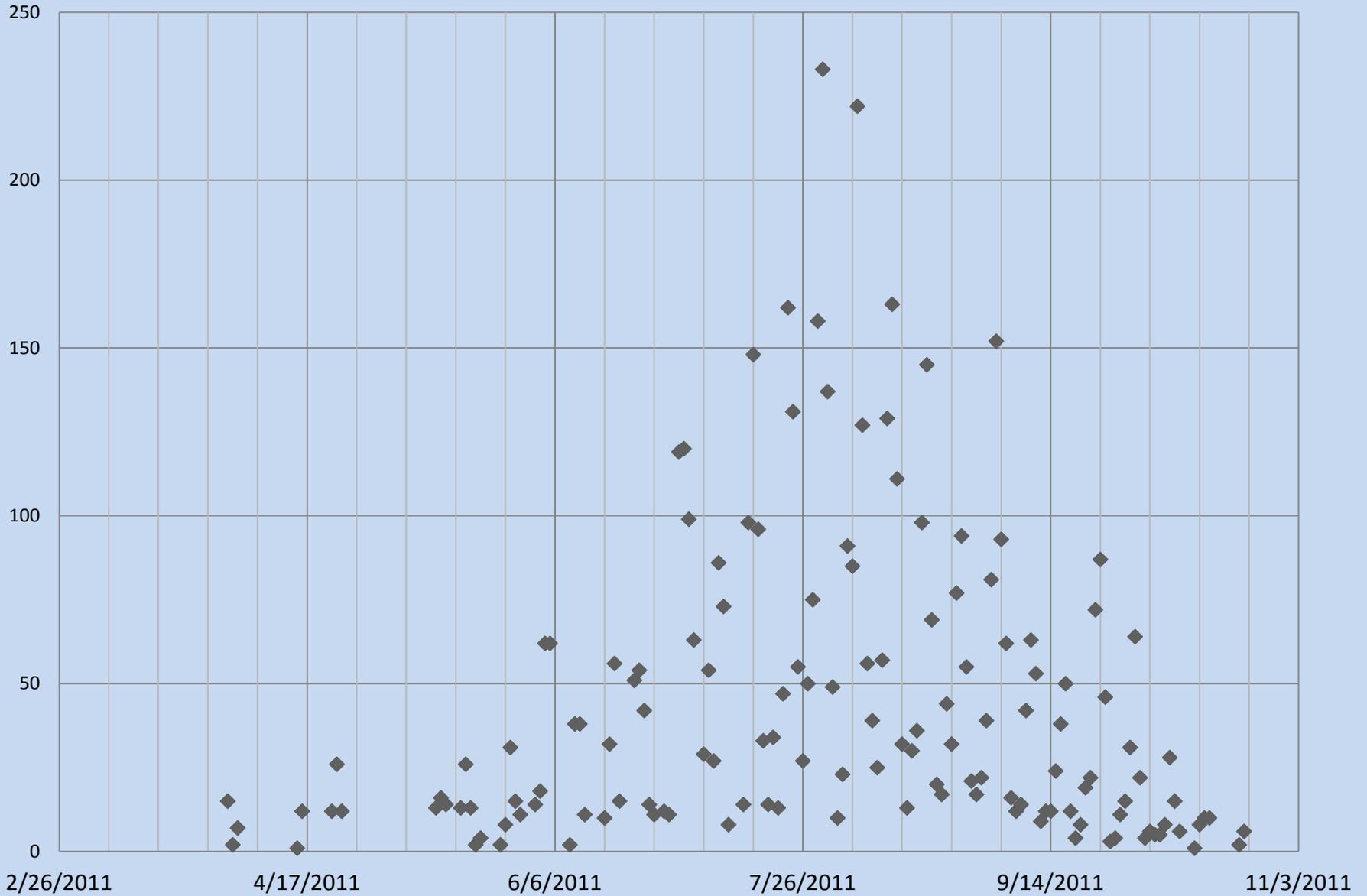


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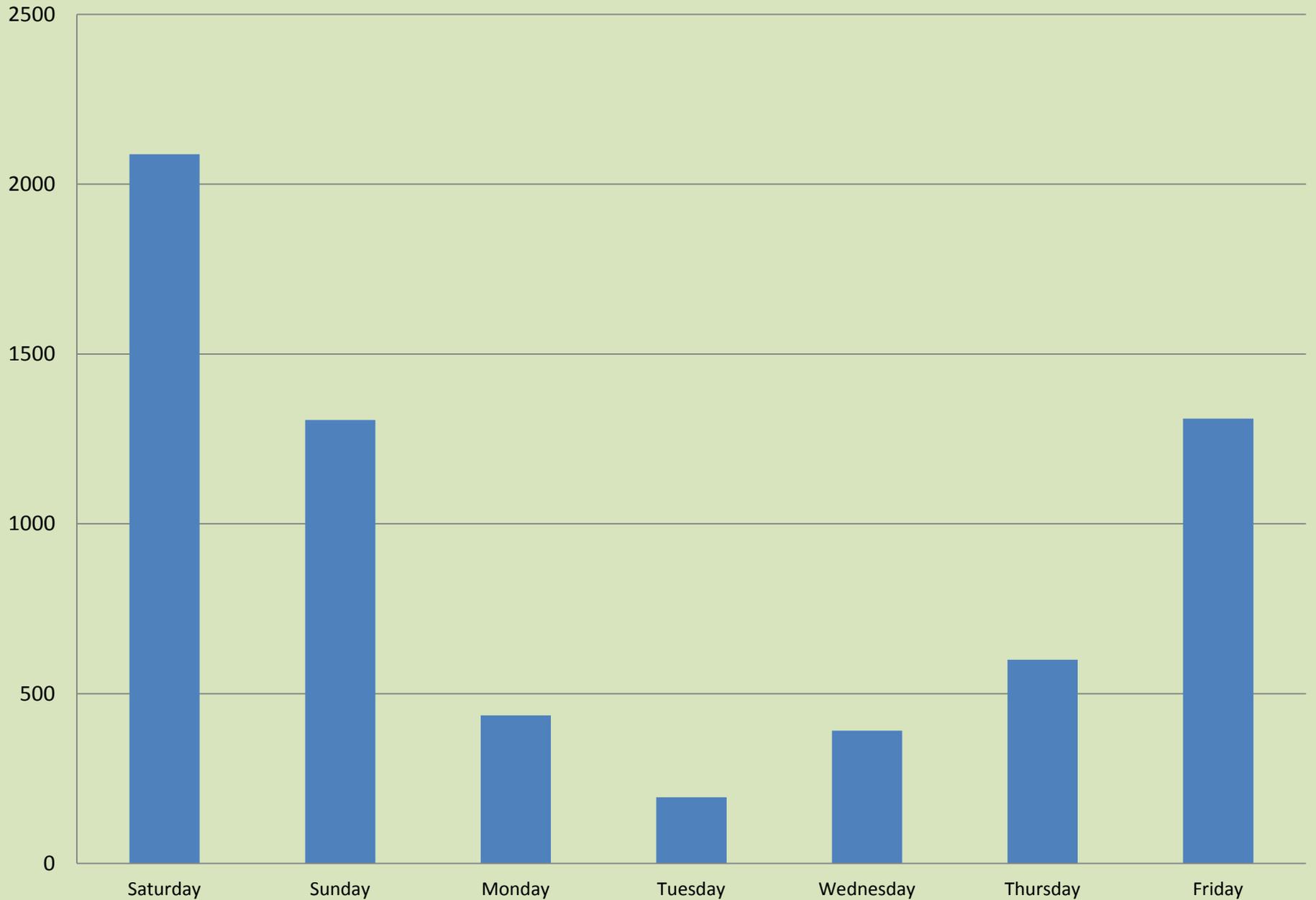
## **FWP Angler/Boater Survey**

- **Water User Zip Code**
- **Number in Party**
- **Watercraft Type**
- **Water User Type**
- **Live Bait**
- **Water bodies visited the last 30 days**
- **Next water body**
- **Knowledge of AIS issues**

# Number of Inspections by Date, 2011

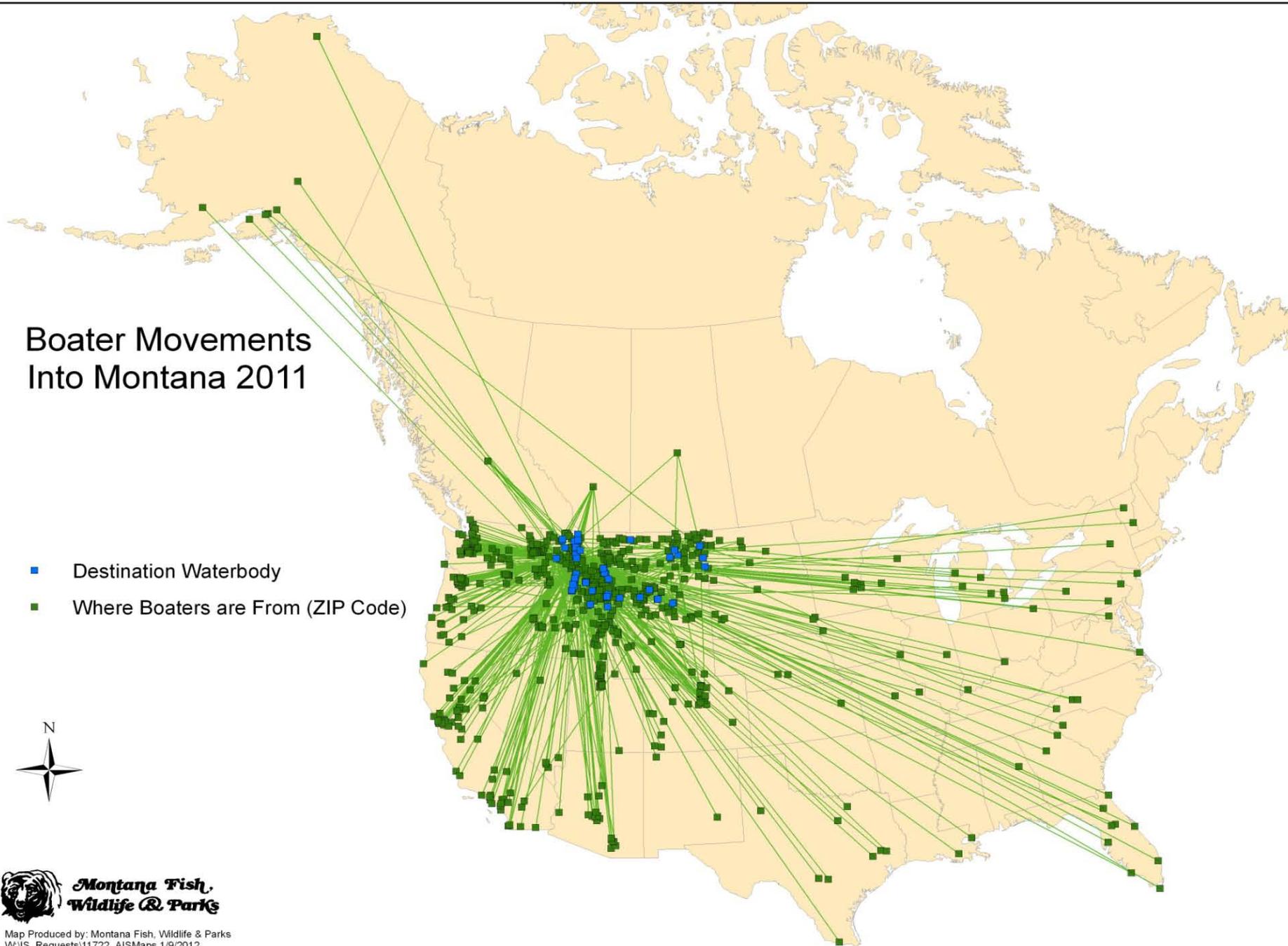


## Inspection Number By Day, 2011



# Boater Movements Into Montana 2011

- Destination Waterbody
- Where Boaters are From (ZIP Code)



<b>Prior waterbody visited.</b>	
ID	38.53%
WA	17.00%
WY	10.06%
ND	7.65%
OR	7.08%
Canada	5.95%
CA	3.68%
UT	2.55%
CO	1.70%
AZ	1.56%
SD	1.42%
MN	1.27%
Other	0.99%
NV	0.57%

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Next Waterbodies Visited in Other States	
ID	41.69%
WY	14.11%
Canada	10.97%
WA	9.40%
ND	8.78%
OR	2.82%
UT	2.51%
Other	1.88%
AZ	1.57%
MN	1.57%
CO	1.25%
SD	0.94%
FL	0.63%
NC	0.63%
KY	0.63%
MI	0.63%

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# Boats leaving Infested Waters in Montana

- Generally return to the same waters or head to another waterbody within the State
- Top five waterbodies visited after Fort Peck are: Fort Peck, Nelson Reservoir, Lake Sacagawea ND, Yellowtail Reservoir, and Canyon Ferry.
- Top five waterbodies visited after Canyon Ferry are: Canyon Ferry, Fort Peck, Hauser, Holter, and Big Horn Lake.

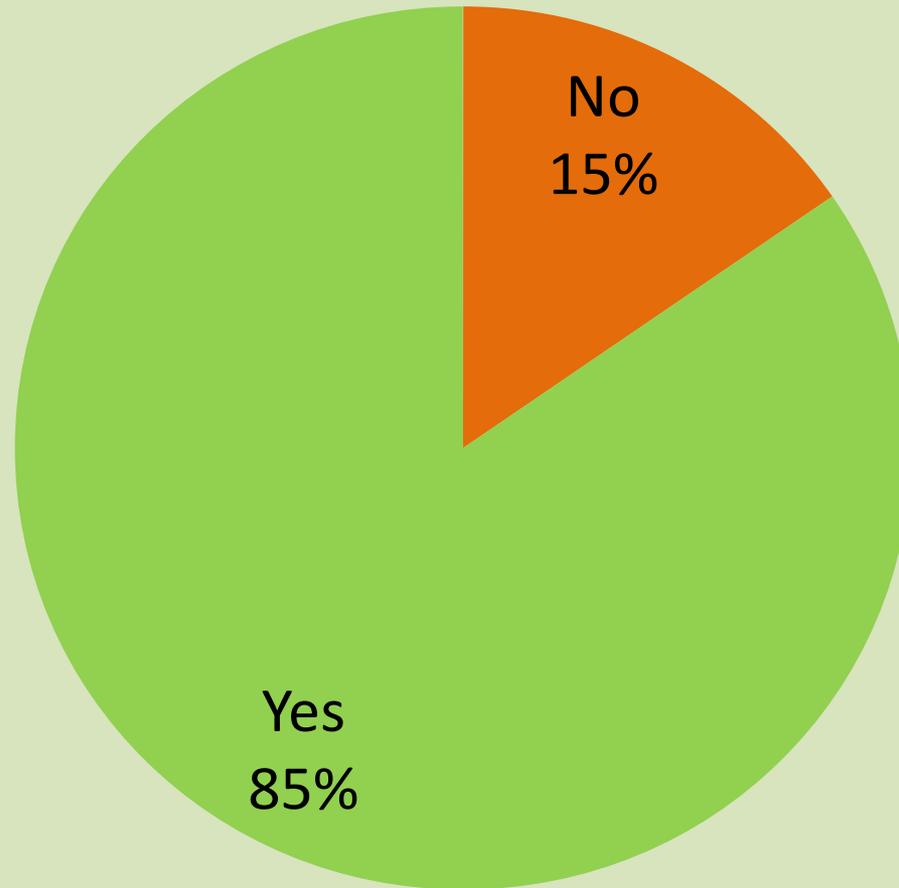
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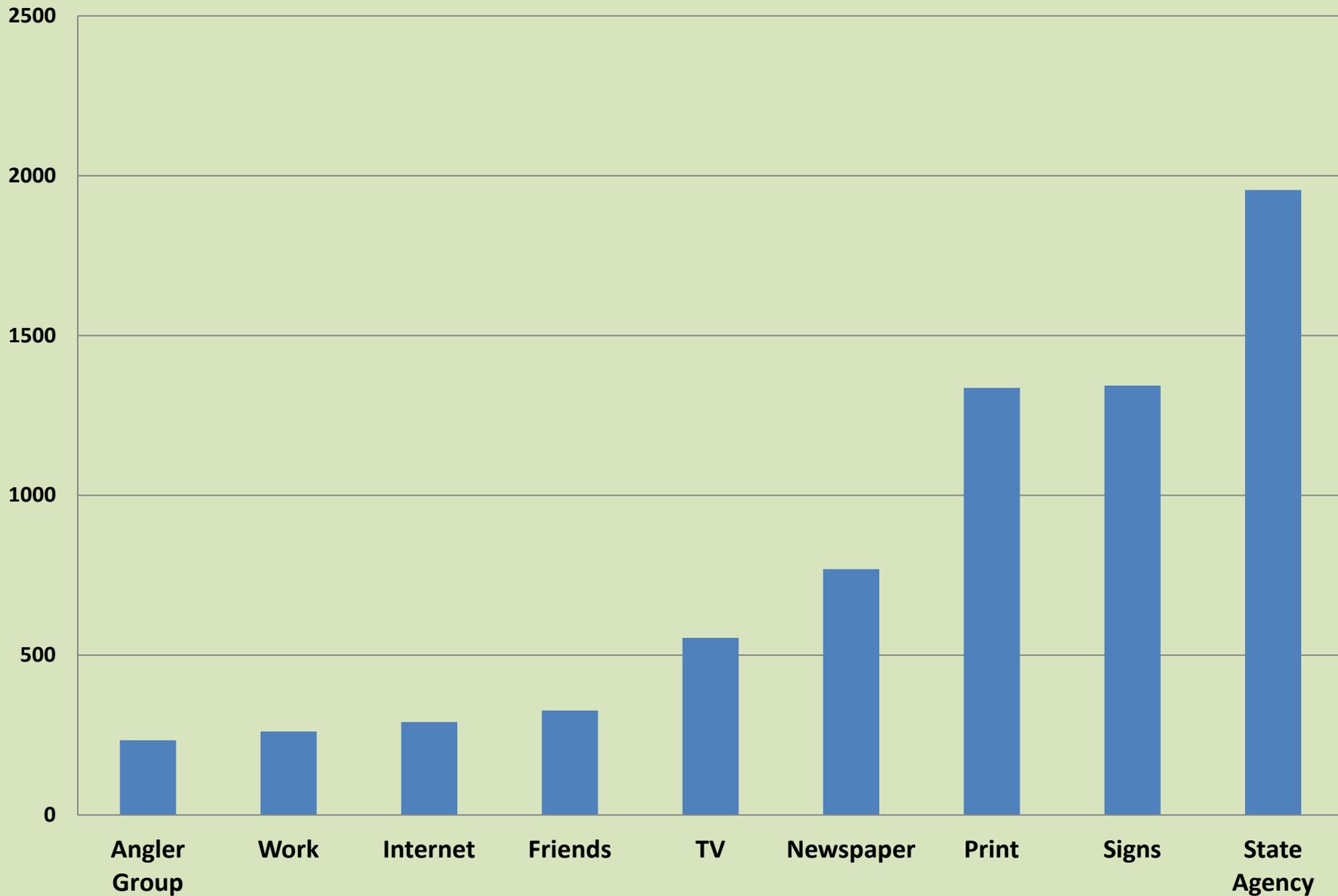
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## 2011 - Aware of AIS?



# 2011 - AIS Knowledge From What Source?



# Watercraft Inspection Station Operation Protocols

- Survey
- Dealing with the Public
- Assessing Risk
- Inspection
- Decontamination
- Flow Chart

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# Plans for 2012 Field Season

- Seeking input from AIS Workgroup
- Partnership Opportunities
- Position announcements for inspectors coming soon.
- Training Events

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# Discussion Questions.

- Prioritizing locations
- Hours of Operations
- Border vs. Internal
- Procedures

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